Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

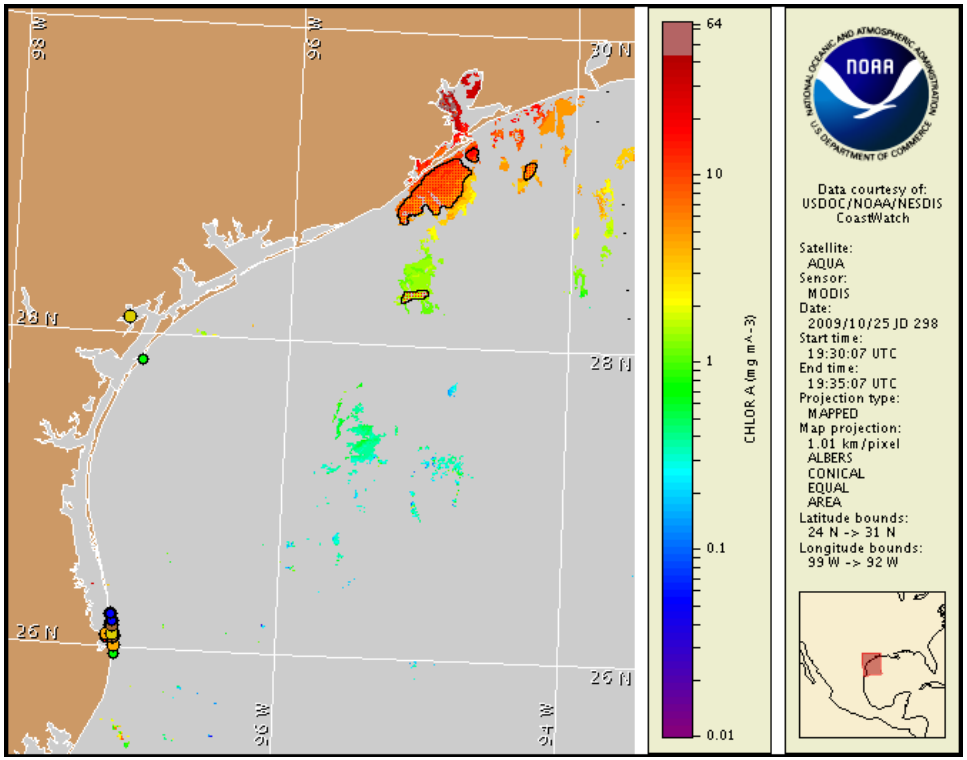
27 October 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: October 22, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 17 to 26 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Conditions Report

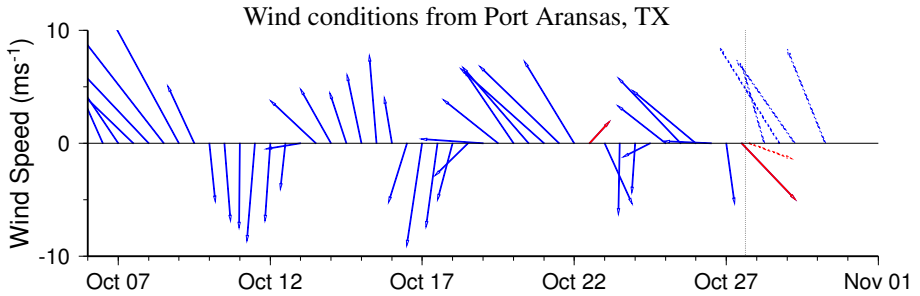
A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Mustang Island to South Padre Island. Very low impacts are expected today, followed by low to moderate impacts Wednesday and Thursday.

Analysis

Although imagery is obscured by clouds along the Texas coast, state sampling data indicate that the K. brevis bloom extends from Mustang Island to South Padre Island. State sampling on Monday showed low to medium cell counts along Padre Island. Offshore winds today may reduce impacts, but strong southeast winds Wednesday and Thursday may increase impacts at the coast. Transport is expected to be southward and onshore, and therefore should prevent expansion of the bloom further northward but may concentrate cells near the coast.

Although imagery is mostly obscured by clouds, it does indicate elevated chlorophyll levels near Galveston Bay.

-Lopez, Jewett

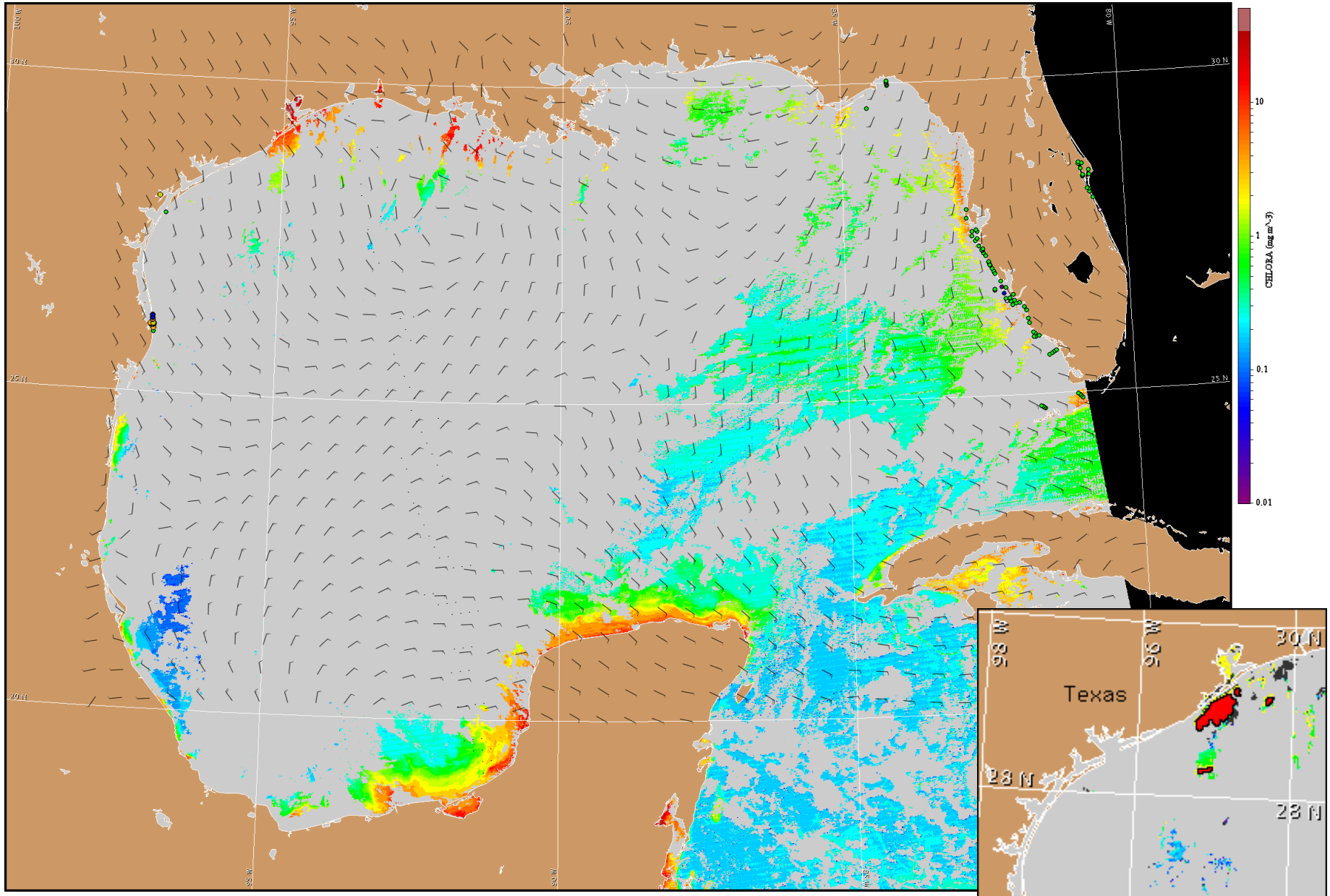


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Today, northwest wind 10 to 15 knots, shifting to south wind tonight. Wednesday, southeast wind 15 to 25 knots. Thursday, south wind 20-25 knots.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 28, 2009 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 17 to 26 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:
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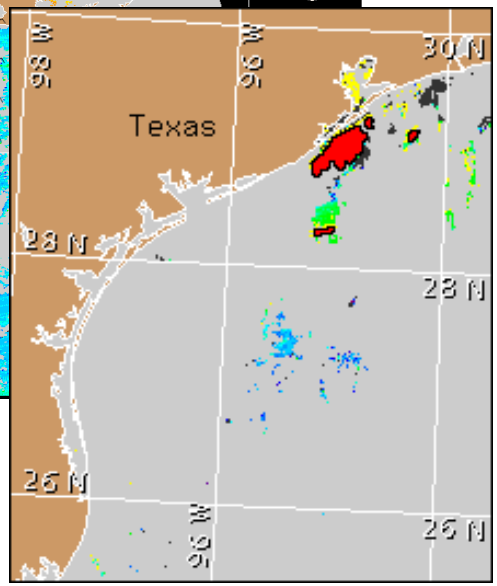

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).